

**MINUTES OF THE
SOUTH OGDEN CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, July 1, 2014 – 6:00 p.m.
Nature Park Amphitheater, 5875 S 1175 E, South Ogden, Utah**

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor James F. Minster, Council Members Sallee Orr, Russell Porter, Wayne Smith, Bryan Benard and Brent Strate

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

City Manager Matthew Dixon, City Attorney Ken Bradshaw, Parks and Public Works Director Jon Andersen, Administrative Services Director Kristen Hansen, Good Landlord Program Coordinator Ben Robbins and Recorder Leesa Kapetanov

CITIZENS PRESENT

Jim Pearce, Gary Boyer, Jerry Cottrell, Jerry & Sandi Mohr, Alan West, Nancy Gibson-Fagg, Jeff Fagg, Norb & Kim Didier, Mary Ford, Bonnie & Bill Rembacz, Addison Weeks, Randall & Melody Parkinson, Brady Jensen, Lanette Weeks, Boyd & Angela Hunter, Peggy Boyer, Robert & Debby Bliss, Boyd & Angela Hunter, Neil Grose

I. OPENING CEREMONY

A. Call to Order

Mayor James F. Minster called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm and asked for a motion to convene.

Council Member Smith moved to convene as the South Ogden City Council, with a second from Council Member Orr. Council Members Benard, Porter, Orr, Smith and Strate all voted aye.

B. Prayer/Moment of Silence

The mayor led those present in a moment of silence.

C. Pledge of Allegiance

Council Member Strate directed everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Minster indicated it was time for public comments and invited anyone who wished to speak to the council concerning issues not on the agenda, to come forward. He reminded them to keep their comments to three minutes, and no action would be taken that evening on comments.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Robert Bliss, 1062 E 5900 S – Informed the council people in his neighborhood had received fliers from the people who wanted to purchase the monastery property. He said the flier seemed to

indicate the property was already sold. He asked if the sale was a “done deal” or if it were still in discussion.

The mayor reminded those present that there would be no response from the council or staff, but said they would be available after the meeting to answer questions.

Neil Grose, 5884 S 1325 E – Mr. Grose said he had lived in South Ogden for ten years and complimented the city on all they had done; however, he had an issue with the large amount of off-leash dogs at the Nature Park. He also said owners were not cleaning up after their dogs. He said he had written to members of the council and the mayor about the issue, but had not received a response back. Mr. Grose said when he visited other parks, there were numerous signs about no off-leash dogs, but Nature Park had only one sign where people using the trails would not see it. He asked the council to take care of the issue.

Daniel Dyer, 1322 E 6000 S – said he had moved here from Davis County and found that taxes here are higher. He realized many of the taxes were levied by the county, but wondered what the city was doing to manage finances to keep taxes low. Mayor Minster indicated Mr. Dyer should speak with the city manager after the meeting to have his question answered.

Boyd Hunter, 1274 E 6000 S – pointed out the neighborhood above the Nature Park had only one point of egress or ingress for emergency vehicles. There were over 150 homes, and he felt it was unsafe. He wondered if there was a way to make another egress behind the existing townhomes onto 1550 East. Mr. Hunter thought it should be looked at.

There were no more comments from the public.

III. RECOGNITION OF SCOUTS/STUDENTS PRESENT

There were no scouts or students at the meeting.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of June 17, 2014 Council Minutes

The mayor asked council members if they had any questions or issues with the minutes, and seeing none, he called for a motion concerning the consent agenda.

Council Member Benard moved to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Council Member Porter. The mayor then called a voice vote. The vote was unanimous to approve the consent agenda.

V. DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEMS

A. Discussion on Nature Park

Mayor Minster said discussion that evening would be on the Nature Park. He had copies of the concept drawing for the park (see Attachment A) handed out to the audience. He reminded those present that there had been a Nature Park Committee comprised of two members of the city council, the public works director, the city manager, and several members of the neighborhood surrounding the park. The committee determined what type of park it should be and the concept drawing depicted their ideas. There had been

several changes made since the original concept drawing was done. The mayor said members of the council had recently been discussing the Nature Park, and because they had not been present when it was originally discussed and built, they wanted to learn some background on it. He then opened discussion to the council.

Council Member Porter said he felt the best way to proceed was to form another committee comprised of residents and council members. The committee should make a prioritized list of things they wanted in the park, i.e. more trails, wider trails, winter accessible trails, fishing pond, etc. They could put a price tag on each of the items and then move forward from there.

Council Member Strate agreed with Mr. Porter that a committee should be formed; he expressed his desire to serve on the committee. He then asked Council Member Orr to share her idea for the west side of the Nature Park.

Council Member Orr said there had been some interest in a community garden, and remarked that the area between the road and the homes on the west side of the Nature Park had been discussed. She also mentioned the council had discussed forming other committees and invited anyone interested in being on a committee to sign up.

Mayor Minster mentioned he had moved into the neighborhood before many of the homes had been built, and it had been hard to see all the land taken for homes. He had been very happy when the park was put in. He also said the funds from the RAMP tax had been very valuable in helping with projects for the parks and asked those present to vote in favor of it when it came up on the next ballot. He then pointed out the park had been meant to show nature and be a place for students to come and study natural environments. There was still much left to do to complete the park, and they wanted to make sure it was done to meet the needs of the residents. He encouraged those present to get involved on a committee.

Council Member Benard agreed with the idea of a committee, but said there were things the city could do now, without a committee. For example, there seemed to be an off-leash dog issue at the park that should be addressed immediately. The city could look at increased signage as well as more enforcement.

Council Member Strate said he had brought up the issue of off-leash dogs at the Nature Park before, and enforcement had been increased.

The council discussed some of the ideas on the concept drawing and what had been done in the park so far. Council Member Benard reminded the council and those present that individuals could purchase trees and benches in memory of loved ones and the funds would be used to do some of the projects yet to be built in the Nature Park. He said ways to raise more money and get more community involvement and community sources of funding should be something the future committee should discuss.

Council Member Smith suggested the committees be formed as soon as possible so things could move forward quickly. There was no more discussion on the Nature Park.

VI. DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR REPORTS

A. Parks and Public Works Director Jon Andersen – Project Updates

Mr. Andersen reported on four different projects:

Friendship Park Tennis Court Resurfacing – would begin work next Monday.

1075 East and Chambers Road Projects – should begin construction within the next two weeks.

Willow Wood Water Line Project – should also begin construction within the next two weeks.

Mayor Minster then asked what the timeline was on repairs on Country Club Drive where the water main break had caused damage. Mr. Andersen said the road was still

sinking and it was important to wait until it was done before repairs were made.

Mr. Andersen then answered several questions from the council members concerning road projects.

VII. REPORTS

- A. Mayor** – reported that South Ogden Days had been very successful. More than 21,000 people had gone through the gates on Friday and Saturday. He thanked everyone that helped make it successful.

B. City Council Members

Council Member Strate – wanted to make those present aware that plans were under way to re-align Harrison Boulevard with Ridgeline Drive where it intersected Highway 89. He thought the re-alignment might meet some of Mr. Hunter's concerns. Mr. Strate then acknowledged those in attendance and their concern with the monastery property and an upcoming public hearing in regards to it.

Council Member Smith – nothing to report.

Council Member Benard – also thanked all those involved with South Ogden Days. He then thanked everyone for attending the meeting that evening; the council welcomed their participation.

Council Member Orr – said South Ogden Days was great and South Ogden's Got Talent was well attended. She encouraged council members to write down any suggestions about South Ogden Days and give them to Jill.

Council Member Porter – acknowledged the parks, public works and police employees who had worked behind the scenes to make South Ogden Days successful.

- C. City Manager** – reminded those present the public hearing for the monastery property would be next Thursday evening. The planning commission would be considering a conditional use application for a group home. The city had retained a land use expert to help navigate the issue and protect all property holder's rights; the applicant as well as the neighborhood.
- Mr. Dixon then informed everyone of an upcoming change in recycling pick-up in the city. Republic Services would change recycling days of pick-up so the whole city would be done the same weeks, rather than alternating A and B weeks. The change would take place the week of July 14th; it had originally been scheduled for this week, but there had been issues with getting post cards out to residents. Republic Services had said they would pick up any cans set out due to the confusion.
- City Manager Dixon told the council that an agenda item to discuss South Ogden Days would be on the next council meeting agenda and they would have an opportunity to give input about it.
- Mr. Dixon then let the council know that Ben Robbins, Good Landlord Program Coordinator, would be leaving his position to attend law school. Mr. Robbins had started with the city as an intern, and later returned as an employee. Mayor Minster had Mr. Robbins stand and everyone acknowledged his service with a round of applause.

- D. City Attorney Ken Bradshaw** – nothing to report.


VIII. ADJOURN

Mayor Minster reminded everyone present to sign up if they were interested on being on a committee. He also invited anyone who had questions to stay after the meeting and speak with a council member or City Manager Dixon. The mayor then called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Council Member Orr moved to adjourn, followed by a second from Council Member Strate. The vote to adjourn was unanimous.

The meeting ended at 6:47 pm.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true, accurate and complete record of the South Ogden City Council Meeting held Tuesday, July 1, 2014.


Leesa Kapetanov, City Recorder

Date Approved by the City Council July 15, 2014

Attachment A
Nature Park Concept Drawing

